

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for the treatment of physical dependence and/or one or more withdrawal symptoms caused by the discontinuation of the use of at least one psychostimulant agent in a mammal, ~~which comprises~~ comprising administering to the mammal an effective amount of a selective alpha2-adrenoceptor antagonist chosen from atipamezole, 4-(2-ethyl-5-fluoro-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-2-yl)-1H-imidazole, 4-(2-ethyl-5,6-difluoro-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-2-yl)-1H-imidazole, and their pharmaceutically acceptable salts.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The method as claimed in according to claim 1, ~~which comprises~~ comprising treating the mammal for existing dependence and/or one or more existing withdrawal symptoms.

3. (Currently Amended) A method ~~as claimed in claim 1, which comprises~~ for the prevention of treating the mammal to prevent the development of dependence and/or one or more withdrawal symptoms caused by the discontinuation of the use of at least one psychostimulant agent in a mammal, comprising administering to the mammal an effective amount of a selective alpha2-adrenoceptor antagonist chosen from atipamezole, 4-(2-ethyl-5-fluoro-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-2-yl)-1H-imidazole, 4-(2-ethyl-5,6-difluoro-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-2-yl)-1H-imidazole, and their pharmaceutically acceptable salts.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]] The method as claimed in~~ according to claims 1 or 3, which comprises comprising discontinuing the use of the at least one psychostimulant upon administration of the at least one alpha2-adrenoceptor.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]] The method as claimed in~~ according to claims 1 or 3, which comprises comprising gradually reducing the use of the at least one psychostimulant ultimately to discontinuation while administering the at least one alpha2-adrenoceptor.

6. (Currently amended) ~~[[A]] The method as claimed in~~ according to claims 1 or 3, wherein the mammal is a human.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]] The method as claimed in~~ according to claim 1, which comprises comprising treating one or more withdrawal symptoms, wherein at least one withdrawal symptom is depression, anxiety, hyperphagia, continued sleepiness, anhedonia, sexual dysfunction, dysphoria, lethargy, general fatigue, shivering, shaking, restlessness, headache, inability to concentrate, decreased sensory sensitivity or apathy.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]] The method as claimed in~~ according to claims 1 or 3, wherein the at least one psychostimulant agent is amphetamine, dextroamphetamine, methamphetamine or other β -phenylisopropylamine derivative.

9. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) ~~[[A]] The method as claimed in~~ according to claims 1 or 3, wherein the at least one psychostimulant agent is nicotine, cocaine, ecstasy, phencyclidine, phenmetrazine, methylphenidate, diethylpropion, pemoline, mazindol, (-) cathione or fenfluramine.

10. (Currently amended) ~~[[A]] The method as claimed in~~ according to claim 1 or 3, wherein the alpha2-adrenoceptor antagonist is atipamezole or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Withdrawn-Currently amended) ~~[[A]] The method as claimed in~~ according to claim 1 or 3, wherein the at least one alpha2-adrenoceptor antagonist is 4-(2-ethyl-5-fluoro-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-2-yl)-1H-imidazole or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

13. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) ~~[[A]] The method as claimed in~~ according to claim 1 or 3, which comprises further comprising administering one or more antidepressants, antipsychotics or anxiolytic agents.

14. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A method for the prevention of relapse after withdrawal from the use of at least one psychostimulant agent in a mammal, which comprises administering to the mammal an effective amount of a selective alpha2-adrenoceptor antagonist chosen from atipamezole, 4-(2-ethyl-5-fluoro-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-2-yl)-1H-imidazole, 4-(2-ethyl-5,6-difluoro-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-2-yl)-1H-imidazole, and their pharmaceutically acceptable salts.

15. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A method for the treatment of physical dependence and/or one or more withdrawal symptoms caused by the discontinuation of the use of at least one compound that enhances dopamine release and/or inhibits dopamine uptake from the synaptic cleft in the central nervous system, which comprises administering to the mammal an effective amount of a selective alpha2-adrenoceptor antagonist chosen from atipamezole, 4-(2-ethyl-5-fluoro-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-2-yl)-1H-

imidazole, 4-(2-ethyl-5,6-difluoro-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-2-yl)-1H-imidazole, and their
pharmaceutically acceptable salts.